

AFRICAN UNION

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**PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL
260TH MEETING
ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA
16 FEBRUARY 2011**

PSC/PR/COMM.(CCLX)

COMMUNIQUE

COMMUNIQUE OF THE 260th MEETING
OF THE PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL

The Peace and Security Council of the African Union (AU), at its 260th meeting held on 16 February 2011, adopted the following decision on the situation in Egypt:

Council:

1. **Takes note** of the briefings by the Commissioner for Peace and Security, as well as by the Permanent Representative of the Arab Republic of Egypt to the AU, on the situation in Egypt;
2. **Notes** the deep aspirations of the Egyptian people, especially its youth, to change and the opening of the political space in order to be able to democratically designate institutions that are truly representative and respectful of freedoms and human rights;
3. **Expresses** AU solidarity with the Egyptian people whose desire for democracy is consistent with the relevant instruments of the AU and the continent's commitment to promote democratization, good governance and respect for human rights;
4. **Strongly condemns** the acts of violence against the demonstrators, which led to loss of human life. Council **requests** the Egyptian authorities to shed light on these acts of violence and to bring their authors and perpetrators to justice;
5. **Recognizes** the exceptional nature of the situation in Egypt and **takes note** of the decision of Mr. Hosni Mubarak to resign from his position as President of the Republic and surrender authority for the exercise of state power to the Supreme Council of the Armed Forces;
6. **Notes** the announcement made and measures taken by the Egyptian authorities for the elaboration of a new Constitution and the organization, within six months maximum, of free, fair, open and transparent legislative and presidential elections, to allow Egyptians to freely choose their leaders and endow their country with democratic institutions;
7. **Requests** the Commission to monitor closely the evolution of the situation and the transition process, including through periodic evaluation missions, and to provide all necessary support to facilitate the completion of the transition. In the meantime, Council **decides** to undertake a mission to Egypt to engage with all stakeholders;
8. **Reserves the right**, in the light of developments in the transition process and on the basis of the relevant AU instruments, to take any measure that the situation may warrant, with due respect for the legitimate aspirations of the Egyptian people for democracy;
9. **Decides** to remain actively seized of the matter.